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Art Unit 2663
Attn: Examiner R. Ngo
Fax. No.: 703-872-9306
From: John C. Gorecki
Date: April 5, 2005

Number of pages including this cover sheet: 9

Re:

Applicant: Merrill, et al. Examiner: R. Ngo
Serial No.: 10/812,581 Art Unit: 2663
Filed: March 30, 2004 Attorney Docket No.: 16628SSUS02U
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONTRACTING FOR DEDICATED
OPTICAL NETWORK RESOURCES ON DEMAND

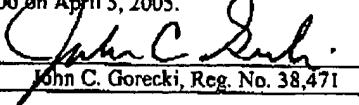
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment in the above-identified application. The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below:

	Number of Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest Number of Claims previously paid for	Number of Extra Claims Present	Rate	Additional Fee
Total Claims	12	20	0	x \$50.00	\$0
Independent Claims	2	3	0	x \$200.00	\$0
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable)					\$0
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEES FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$0.00

No fees are believed due in connection with this filing. If any additional fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 502246 (Ref. NN-16442). A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully Submitted



John C. Gorecki
 Registration No. 38,471

Dated: April 5, 2005

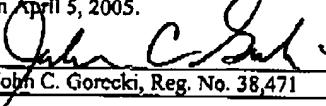
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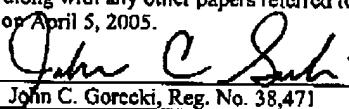
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend this application as follows:

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION begin on page 2 of this paper.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS are reflected in the listing of the claims, which begin on page 3 of this paper.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS begin on page 6 of this paper.